GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3379
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2008
EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL AND PROCESSED FOOD PRODUCTS
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the report of the Food and Agricultural Organisation India is lagging behind in the export of agricultural and processed food products in spite of abundant and varied production base;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Report also pointed out that Indian exports are confined to conventional markets in West Asia Western Europe and North America;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to fully utilise the production and export of India`s fresh and processed food?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)& (b) The report of the Food and Agricultural Organisation relates to food parks. There has been a consistent growth in export of agri and processed food products from the country. The details of these commodities, in the Schedule of the Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), during the last 3 years are given below.

Quantity in million MTs: Value: Rs. crore

2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
10.45	18782.96	10.90	21805.94	17.45	31870.62

(Source: APEDA)

There has been a consistent growth in export.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The share of West Asia, Western Europe and North America in our total exports of agricultural and processed food products is given below:-

	Rs. in crore Value	% Share
West Asia North Africa	11218	35.19
Western Europe	2735	8.58
North America	1617	5.07

Source: DGCI&S

(e): APEDA has been taking various measures to promote export of agricultural and processed food products. These include: -

(i) Setting up of centers for perishable cargo at International Airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore and Thiruvananthapuram, common pack houses, and other infrastructural facilities.

(ii) Setting up and upgradation of testing laboratories and implementation of residue monitoring plans, development of packaging and preparation of pre and post harvest manuals for export of fruits & vegetables.

(iii) Setting up of Agri export zones for fruits and vegetables.

(iv) Participation in international trade fairs, organisation of promotional campaigns, buyer seller meets and training programmes for certification bodies and farmers

(v) Financial assistance to its registered exporters under its schemes for Financial assistance for Infrastructure Development, Market Development, Quality Development, Research & Development and Transport assistance.